

Navistar International  
Transportation Corp.

3033 Wayne Trace  
PO Box 10088  
Fort Wayne IN 46850-0088

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OFFICE  
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION



**INTERNATIONAL**

July 12, 1999

Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Admin.  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington D.C. 20590

99V-128.003 (01)

**Subject: Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report**

Pursuant to Part 573.5, this Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report is submitted by Navistar International Transportation Corp.

This report relates to the wheel hubs, manufactured by SKF Automotive and installed on 13,200lb rated front steer axles, supplied to Navistar by Meritor Automotive. Our contact at Meritor Automotive is:

Mr. Tom Bowman  
Manager: Product Integrity & Reliability  
Meritor Heavy Vehicle Systems, LLC  
2135 West Maple Road  
Troy, MI 48064-7486  
Phone: (248) 435-1725

- (1) NAVISTAR RECALL NUMBER ASSIGNED: 99505
- (2) VEHICLE MODELS INVOLVED: 9200, 9300, 9400, and 9800
- (3) MODEL YEARS INVOLVED: 1996 through 1998
- (4) OTHER IDENTIFICATION NECESSARY TO DESCRIBE VEHICLES:  
Vehicles with Meritor 13,200lb rated front steer axles.
- (5) VEHICLE MANUFACTURING DATES: 2/1/96 through 5/31/98
- (6) VEHICLE POPULATION INVOLVED: 80, This quantity represents the total U.S. population with 13,200lb rated front steer axles.
- (7) PORTION OF POPULATION ESTIMATED TO CONTAIN DEFECT: 100%

**NAVISTAR**

- (8) **DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT:** Meritor supplied Navistar with wheel hubs that were produced by SKF. SKF, Meritor, and Navistar have no reported field failures of this hub on 13,200 lb rated axles; however, SKF has concluded that these hubs may have less than an infinite fatigue life if used with a thin brake drum. If a wheel hub experiences fatigue failure the end result could be complete wheel separation from the vehicle.
- (9) **RISK TO MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY:** Separation of the wheel from the vehicle could result in loss of steering control and cause a vehicular accident, resulting in personal injury, property damage, or both.
- (10) **CHRONOLOGY OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS WHICH LED TO DETERMINATION OF A SAFETY DEFECT:**
- A. 5/10/99, Navistar received the wheel hub defect letter from Meritor. An investigation was initiated.
  - B. 6/4/99, Meritor and SKF met with Navistar engineering, reliability, and compliance to discuss the issue.
  - C. 6/25/99, SKF submitted SN curves, (graphs representing the relationship between wheel hub stress and the number of cycles the hub will experience) generated from their test data, to Navistar for review.
  - D. 6/29/99, SKF submitted their duty cycles and analysis methods, used to arrive at the potential defect conclusion, to Navistar.
  - E. 7/8/99, A safety recall was declared.
- (11) **PROGRAM TO BE TAKEN TO REMEDY DEFECT:** Both wheel hubs will be replaced on all vehicles involved.
- (12) **THE SCHEDULE FOR THIS RECALL IS:**
- Notify Navistar Field Service: 7/26/99
  - Notify Navistar Dealers: 7/26/99
  - Notify Customers: 8/2/99
- (13) **PROCEDURE TO INFORM SECRETARY OF FAILURE TO REMEDY WITHOUT CHARGE:** Paragraph to be added to owner notification letter as follows: If you take your vehicle to your International dealer on a mutually agreed upon service date and he does not remedy this condition without charge on that date or within five days, you can obtain assistance by following the procedure described in the Owner Assistance Guide section of your Owner's Manual. You may also wish to submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590, or call the toll-free Auto Safety Hotline at 1-800-424-9393 (Washington, DC, area residents may call 336-0123) if your International dealer fails to remedy or is unable to remedy this condition without charge or within a reasonable time.

Page 3 of 3, July 12, 1998

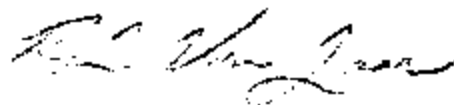
99V-128.003 (03)

(14) OWNER LETTER AND TECHNICAL LETTER: To follow at the time they are released to the purchasers.

The undersigned should be contacted for any additional information regarding this recall on (219) 461-1890.

Very truly yours,

NAVISTAR INTERNATIONAL  
TRANSPORTATION CORP.



R. L. Van Laar  
Compliance Manager

Enclosure

Certified Mail # Z 276 409 866

cc: B. S. Henriksen - TRC